

Message Text

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72

ORIGIN PM-07

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-25 ISO-00 SS-07 INR-10 IO-14 SCI-06

NSF-04 COME-00 ACDA-19 NAS-01 RSC-01 /105 R

66617

DRAFTED BY: PM/ISO:FJFLEMING

APPROVED BY: PM/ISO:FJFLEMINGS

OSD/ISA:FMRA:JD TERRY

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OSD/ISA/EUR:COL. BOWEN

----- 116003

P 290039Z DEC 73

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY LISBON PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY DAKAR PRIORITY

INFO SECDEF

CINCLANTFLT PRIORITY

WEARECON FOUR PRIORITY

CNO PRIORITY

COMFAIR PRIORITY

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EO 11652: NA

TAGS: MILI/OCLR/PO/SG

SUBJ: EXTENSION OF WAIVER OF CLEARANCE OR ADVANCE NOTIFI-
CATION REQUIREMENTS FOR US NAVY WEATHER RECONNAIS-
SANCE AIRCRAFT

REF : A. STATE 222765

B. USDAO DAKAR, 310930Z JAN 73

C. LISBON 0314

1. REFERENCES CONVEYED REQUEST FOR, AND GRANT OF, EXTENSION

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OF WAIVERS BY GOP AND GOS OF ADVANCE NOTIFICATION OR CLEAR-

ANCE REQUIREMENTS FOR FLIGHT BY US NAVY WEATHER RECONNAISSANCE AIRCRAFT. THESE EXTENSIONS EXPIRE DECEMBER 31, 1973, AND WE NOW ASK ADDRESSEES TO REQUEST INDEFINITE EXTENSION OF THESE WAIVERS. IF INDEFINITE EXTENSION NOT POSSIBLE, WE NEED LONGEST PERIOD AVAILABLE, BUT AT LEAST NOT LESS THAN 2 YEARS.

2. EXPERIENCE DURING THE 1972 HURRICANE SEASON DEMONSTRATED THE DESIRABILITY OF OCEANOGRAPHIC AND METEOROLOGICAL RECONNAISSANCE THROUGHOUT THE YEAR IN THE EASTERN ATLANTIC AREA. THE US NAVY DESIRES TO CONTINUE INDEFINITELY SUCH EFFORTS IN THE NORTHEASTERN ATLANTIC AND MEDITERRANEAN IN ORDER TO OBTAIN WEATHER AND BATHYTHERMOGRAPHIC DATA IN THOSE AREAS CONTINUOUSLY. US NAVY, THEREFORE, EXPECTS TO CONDUCT ROUTINE UNCLASSIFIED TRANSATLANTIC WEATHER RECONNAISSANCE FLIGHTS, WITH SUCH EASTBOUND FLIGHTS IN THE HIGHER LATITUDES AND SUCH WESTBOUND FLIGHTS AT LOWER LATITUDES, IN ORDER TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF PREVAILING WINDS. THE STRATEGIC LOCATION OF THE AIRPORTS AT SAL AND DAKAR, COUPLED WITH AIRCRAFT RANGE LIMITATIONS, MAKE THEM IDEAL AS CONTINGENCY LANDING AND STAGING POINTS FOR BOTH EAST AND WEST BOUND WEATHER RECONNAISSANCE FLIGHTS.

3. UNARMED P-3 AIRCRAFT OF US NAVY WEATHER RECONNAISSANCE SQUADRON FOUR WILL BE USED FOR THESE OPERATIONS AND ALL CREW MEMBERS WILL BE US CITIZENS, WILL CARRY MILITARY IDENTIFICATION CARDS, AND WILL BEAR OFFICIAL ORDERS. FLIGHTS INVOLVING OPERATIONS INTO OR FROM DAKAR WILL NOT ORIGINATE FROM, TERMINATE AT, OR OVERFLY PORTUGUESE AFRICAN TERRITORIES OR CAPE VERDE ISLANDS. LESS THAN 30 LANDINGS, STAGINGS ANNUALLY ARE EXPECTED AT EACH AIRFIELD.

4. ALL DATA TO BE COLLECTED IN THE COURSE OF THESE OPERATIONS WILL BE RELEASED INTERNATIONALLY THROUGH THE WORLD METEOROLOGICAL ORGANIZATION. FOR LISBON: US NAVY WEATHER RECONNAISSANCE SQUADRON FOUR CARRIED OUT THE CLOUD-SEEDING OPERATION IN THE AZORES JULY-AUGUST 1972 IN ORDER TO BREAK THE DROUGHT THERE.

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5. WORLD METEOROLOGICAL ORGANIZATION IS SUPPORTING A GLOBAL ATMOSPHERIC RESEARCH PROGRAM (GARP) ONE PROJECT OF WHICH IS PLANNED FOR THE GENERAL AREA WEST OF DAKAR IN 1974 AND 1975. THIS WILL REQUIRE A LARGE WEATHER RECONNAISSANCE EFFORT BY CIVILIAN AND MILITARY AIRCRAFT OF SEVERAL NATIONS INCLUDING US. KISSINGER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 29 DEC 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: morefirh
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973STATE252136
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: PM/ISO:FJFLEMING
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t1973121/aaaaaalj.tel
Line Count: 113
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ORIGIN PM
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: A. STATE 222765
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: morefirh
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 25 SEP 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <25-Sep-2001 by rowellE0>; APPROVED <14 FEB 2002 by morefirh>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: EXTENSION OF WAIVER OF CLEARANCE OR ADVANCE NOTIFI- CATION REQUIREMENTS FOR US NAVY WEATHER RECONNAIS-
TAGS: MILI, OCLR, PO, SG
To: LISBON DAKAR
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005